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IF Directorate sponsors Digital Forensics Research Workshop

by Fran Crum, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y. — Digital forensic researchers from five nations collaborated during the 3rd Annual Digital Forensic Research Workshop, sponsored by the Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate Aug. 8 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Attendees included representatives from the military, law enforcement and academia in Italy, England, Australia, Ireland, and the U.S. Highlighting the event were panel discussions on digital forensic law and digital forensic tools and technology and an exhibition of current research accomplishments featured the workshop.

"By bringing academic researchers and digital forensic investigators and practitioners together in active discussion, the workshop made major contributions in defining the need and creating the processes for incorporating a rigorous scientific method as a fundamental tenet of the evolving discipline of Digital Forensic Science," said Glen E. Bahr, a workshop organizer with the directorate's Defensive Information Warfare Team.

"Advancements were made in developing a research agenda that emphasizes practitioner requirements, multiple investigative environments and real world usability," Bahr said. "Discussions were also conducted on achieving discovery, explanation and presentation of conclusive, persuasive evidence that will meet the heightened scrutiny of military decision-makers and civilian courts."

"Computers have become ubiquitous -- not only in home and business activities, but also in terrorism, war and crime," Bahr said. "Captured computers contain a wealth of information about the perpetrators' activities, contacts, relationships and locations. Rapid and reliable mining of these data for investigations of digital "wrongdoing" from all perspectives is invaluable to military response, Homeland Security, and law enforcement actions." @

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fiberglass cover, which allowed them to test the exact dimensions and clearances of the duct structure, and to determine how the AFRPE-4 wrap would fit in the aircraft. Then they developed a design process for a rigid steel tool, which will allow manufacturers to cure and fashion the cover at the 700 degrees F temperature needed for the cure of the AFRPE-4 resin with the glass fiber fabric. In addition, an ACO engineer met with maintainers on the flightline to discuss application of the new duct cover.

Ogden Air Logistics Center, Hill Air Force Base, will manufacture and produce the air duct covers at their unique high-temperature capable production facility. The B1-B SPO authored instructions, which were reviewed by ACO experts that will enable Air Force maintainers to apply the new covers as a field level repair during the B-1B's regular maintenance intervals. The Air Force currently has 60 B1-B aircraft in its fleet. @